The Planning Commission has informed that they had advised the State Government to follow a project approach and consider trying up the resources from all the stakeholders and at a later stage approach the . Commission for filling up any gap in resources.

Handing over of LPG distribution to private players

† *136. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to hand over the supply of LPG to private companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of companies which will be given permission for supplying LPG?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI **MANI** SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) In addition to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) who are marketing LPG in the country, since April, 1993 Government have allowed private sector companeis to participate in the scheme of parallel marketing of LPG, under which these companies can import LGP and sell it at market-determined prices.

In February 2005, the Government have also authorized Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) to market indigenously produced LPG in the country, subject to the following:-

(i) Till 31.3.2006, after meeting the demand of OMCs in full as per industry logistics plan, these companies are authorised to sell seasonally surplus LPG subject to this not exceeding 20% of their total sale of LPG

(ii) After 1.4.2006, ONGC, GAIL and RIL are authorised to market LPG but their sale of bulk (non-domestic) LPG should not exceed 20% of total sales of_LPG, the remaining 80% being earmarked for domestic LPG.

(iii) ONGC, GAIL and RIL would have to strictly adhere to the provision of the LPG (regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000 dated 26.4.2000 and the LPG (Regulation of Use in Motor Vehicles) Order, 2001 dated 1.8.2001 for sale of LPG in domestic and non-domestic markets.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.